

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 OSLO 02194 070850Z  
ACTION DLOS-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 OES-07 PRS-01 PA-02 IO-13  
L-03 /048 W

-----072150Z 069242 /46

R 061525Z MAY 77  
FM AMEMBASSY OSLO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3700  
INFO USIA WASHDC  
USINFO WASHDC

UNCLAS OSLO 2194

FOR S/AR ZUCHERMAN

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PLOS, SOPN, NO  
SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON  
NORWEGIAN MEDIA COVERAGE OF MABASSADOR RICHARDSON'S VISIT

1. NORWEGIAN TV, RADIO AND PRESS GAVE FULL COVERAGE MAY 4 AND 5 TO JOINT EVENSEN-RICHARDSON PRESS CONFERENCE AT NORWEGIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY, WITH STORIES DEVOTED ALMOST EXCLUSIVELY TO AMBASSADOR RICHARDON'S REMARKS.

2. MAIN THRUST MOST REPORTING WAS RICHARDSON'S EXPRESSION OF "CAUTIOUS OPTIMISM" ABOUT THE PROSPECTS FOR THE NEXT LOS ROUND. CONSERVATIVE DAILY AFTENPOSTEN QUOTED THE AMBASSADOR'S REMARK THAT "THE LAST LOS ROUND ENDED ON A NOTE OF DISAPPOINTMENT, BUT AS A RESULT OF THE GENEVA NEGOTIATIONS IN MARCH, THERE HAS BEEN A RENEWED FEELING OF OPTIMISM THAT A WAY MIGHT BE FOUND TO DEVELOP A CONSENSUS ON THE SEABED EXPLOITATION ISSUE."

3. VERY SIMILAR REPORTS AFTENPOSTEN, LABOR PARTY DAILY ARBEIDERBLADET, AND OTHER SMALLER DAILIES SUMMARIZED AS FOLLOWS:  
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4. AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON CAME TO NORWAY TO REVIEW WITH MINISTER JENS EVENSEN THE POTENTIAL ELEMENTS OF CONSENSUS AND TO DISCUSS SOME OF THE PROCEDURAL PROBLEMS TO BE FACED IN NEW YORK. ASKED AT A PRESS CONFERENCE ABOUT AMERICAN INDUSTRY ATTITUDES DEEP SEA BED ISSUE, HE SAID "THEY ARE DEFINITELY GETTING

IMPATIENT." HE SXPLAINED THAT SO FAR THE ADMINISTRATION HAS NOT SUPPORTED THE LEGISLATION ON DEEP SEA MINING BY PRIVATE COMPANIES IN THE HOPE THAT A SATISFACTORY REGIME CAN BE SET UP, BUT A FAILURE OF THE LOS CONFERENCE TO REACH AGREEMENT IN NEW YORK ON THIS ISSUE WOULD CREATE A NEED FOR SOME U.S. LEGISLATION THAT OPENS THE WAY FOR THE INDUSTRY TO BEGIN MINING. "THE WORLD NEEDS A NEW LOS TREATY," AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON SAID, "OTHERWISE THERE IS A REAL RISK OF CHAOS. AND IT WILL BE IMPOSSIBLE TO GO BACK TO OLD SEA LAW BECAUSE OF THE NEW LAWS THE LOS CONFERENCE HAS CREATED IN SOME AREAS LIKE THE TERRITORIAL AND ECONOMIC ZONES." AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON ALSO EXPRESSED FEARS THAT IN THE ABSENCE OF A NEW LOS TREATY, THE COASTAL STATES MIGHT TAKE UNILATERAL ACTION HINDERING FREE PASSAGE ON THE HIGH SEAS.

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## Message Attributes

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**TAGS:** PLOS, SOPN, NO, (RICHARDSON, ELLIOT L)  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009